January 9, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I have been asked so submit my opinion regarding the Microsoft litigation. I thoroughly believe that litigation against Microsoft in the antitrust case was unjustified and not in the best interest of the American public. I am happy to see that Microsoft will not be broken up which could have lead to another Ma Bell debacle. However, it still makes concessions to its opponents to bring an end to the suit.

Microsoft should have not to document and disclose various interfaces that are internal to its Windows' operating system with out receiving a fee from the prospect wanting to run on Microsoft's platform. Microsoft worked long and hard to create this technology and owns the rights to it. Microsoft should not be aloud to prevent manufactures from promoting competitive products nor should Microsoft be bared from negotiating agreements that are exclusive to them. It is not the government's place to force a business to not take part in promotions that will compete for market share. This would be to tie the hands of a companies sales and marketing efforts.

These are concessions that seem to go against many of the principles on which the free enterprise system was founded. As restrictive as the concessions may be if Microsoft supports the settlement, then I guess I can too. However I believe it sets a bad precedent

Sincerely, / Jeuse augustus
George Andrews

cc: Senator Rick Santorum